

DRAFT REMARKS OF DCI/DDCI TO EXCEPTIONAL COLLECTOR

AWARDS CEREMONY

29 JANUARY 1988

I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO PRESENT INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY AWARDS TO THOSE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE--OVER THE PAST YEAR--COLLECTED INTELLIGENCE OF SIGNIFICANT IMPORTANCE TO THE NATION. AND I WANT TO COMMEND THE HUMINT COMMITTEE, THE INTERAGENCY GROUP WHICH WORKS TO DEVELOP AND COORDINATE THE PRIORITIES OF HUMAN SOURCE INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, AND WHICH SPONSORS THIS COMMUNITY-LEVEL RECOGNITION OF THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE.

ALL OF US HERE KNOW HOW IMPORTANT IT IS FOR OUR PRESIDENT AND THE NATION'S POLICYMAKERS TO HAVE THE BEST, MOST COMPREHENSIVE, AND THE MOST TIMELY INTELLIGENCE WE CAN PROVIDE. AS COLLECTORS WE ARE, MORE AND MORE, BEING CALLED UPON TO SUPPORT THE RANGE OF OUR COUNTRY'S STRATEGIC AND POLICY GOALS AND TO RESPOND TO SIGNIFICANT EVENTS AFFECTING OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS AS THOSE EVENTS UNFOLD. IN A WORLD OF INCREASINGLY COMPLEXITY, IT IS CRITICAL FOR ALL WHO USE INTELLIGENCE--THE FIELD COMMANDERS AND THE JOINT CHIEFS, THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, AND THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE--TO BE ABLE TO RELY UPON THE HIGHLY DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS WHO COLLECT OUR VITAL INTELLIGENCE.

IT IS IMPORTANT AS WELL FOR US TO TAKE NOTE OF QUALITY AND TO RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE WHEN WE SEE IT. WE DO THAT TODAY. AND IN DOING SO, WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THAT OUR ABILITY TO FUND PROGRAMS IS SHRINKING WHILE WHAT WE DEMAND OF INTELLIGENCE HAS GROWN. YOU ALL KNOW OF THE BUDGET REDUCTIONS WHICH ARE BEING MADE IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE DEFICIT. YOU ALSO KNOW HOW DIFFICULT THE DECISIONS ARE WHEN IT COMES TO DETERMINING WHICH PROGRAMS MUST BE CUT OR EVEN DROPPED. AFTER A PERIOD OF SUSTAINED GROWTH IN THE INTELLIGENCE BUDGET, WE MUST NOW DO MORE WITH LESS--TO MEET WORLDWIDE INTELLIGENCE CHALLENGES THAT HAVE NOT CHANGED TO SUIT OUR TIGHTENED BUDGET.

AGAINST THIS BACKDROP OF INCREASING DEMANDS AND A CONSTRAINED BUDGET, THE APPROACH OF TEAMWORK BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER. AS WAS THE CASE LAST YEAR, WE RECOGNIZE HERE THE FRUITS OF COOPERATION AMONG INDIVIDUALS, DIRECTORATES, AND AGENCIES. OUR OPERATIONAL CHALLENGES ARE GOING TO GROW MORE, NOT LESS, COMPLEX. I LOOK FORWARD TO ADDITIONAL CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS IN THE FUTURE WHICH WILL CONTINUE TO SHOW WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED BY THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL TRADECRAFT, COMBINED WITH WHATEVER SPECIALIZED EXPERTISE IS NECESSARY.

WE HAVE SUCCESSFULLY PROVIDED HIGH QUALITY INTELLIGENCE ON AN IMPRESSIVE RANGE OF ISSUES. INTELLIGENCE COLLECTED ON MILITARY HOSTILITIES IN THE THIRD WORLD, IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ELSEWHERE, HAS BEEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO BE VITAL TO OUR NATIONAL INTERESTS. BEYOND THIS AND OTHER ISSUES OF CURRENT HIGH VISIBILITY, WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO COLLECT VALUABLE INFORMATION ON THE MILITARY CAPABILITIES OF OUR ADVERSARIES, ON THE DIVERSION OF HIGH TECHNOLOGY TO THE SOVIET BLOC, ON CRITICAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS, AND ON THE SCORES OF OTHER PROBLEMS AND ISSUES WHERE THE PRESIDENT AND CONGRESS MUST BE WELL-INFORMED BY THIS AND OTHER AGENCIES IN THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.

THE MEN AND WOMEN OF CIA WHOM WE HONOR TODAY HAVE PROVIDED EXTRAORDINARY SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY. THEIR WORK HAS BEEN HIGHLY DIVERSE. OFTEN THEY HAVE RUN PERSONAL RISKS AND HAVE PERFORMED THEIR DUTIES UNDER DIFFICULT AND DEMANDING CIRCUMSTANCES. THEY HAVE SHOWN EXCEPTIONAL SKILL IN PERFORMING THEIR COLLECTION ACTIVITIES--ACTIVITIES WHICH INCLUDE IDENTIFYING, RECRUITING, AND HANDLING AGENTS; PERFORMING ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL, AND SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS; COORDINATING AND MANAGING CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS; AND CONTRIBUTING A WIDE RANGE OF SUPPORTING SKILLS WITHOUT WHICH THE SUCCESSFUL COLLECTION ACTIVITIES WE HONOR TODAY COULD NOT HAVE BEEN DONE.

IN ALL OF THIS THERE ARE QUALITIES CHARACTERISTIC OF THESE EXCEPTIONAL COLLECTORS. THEY UNDERSTAND REQUIREMENTS AND COLLECTION, HAVE SOUND JUDGMENT AND GREAT SELF-DISCIPLINE, CAN COMMUNICATE WITH SKILL AND SPEED, ARE ABLE TO WORK WITH PEOPLE OF ALL CULTURES, CAN ADJUST READILY TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, AND ARE DEDICATED TO SERVING OUR NATION AND PROVIDING ITS LEADERS WITH THE BEST INTELLIGENCE IN THE WORLD.

I AM PLEASED TO SPEAK FOR THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY IN RECOGNIZING YOU FOR THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICES YOU HAVE RENDERED AS EXCEPTIONAL COLLECTORS. I CONGRATULATE YOU ALL.

WE WILL NOW PROCEED WITH THE PRESENTATION OF AWARDS.